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critical discussion of the details of the passages brought forward, and while the net result of the whole investigation is only negatively instructive, yet it is useful to have the facts gathered in so handy a form and treated with such candor and evident ability.—*Lehrbuch der alttestamentlichen Religionsgeschichte*. Von Dr. Rudolph Smend, Professor an der Universität Göttingen. Zweite umgearbeitete Auflage. (Freiburg i. B.: J. C. B. Mohr (Paul Siebeck), 1899; pp. x + 579; M. 18.) This is a thoroughly revised edition of Smend's admirable handbook and is in many respects a great improvement upon the first edition. No user of the book in its original form could help being annoyed at the author's evident failure to make his divisions and order of thought prominent or even clear. In the new edition a careful analytic table of contents is given and followed in the treatment. The important points in the paragraphs are indicated by spacing the emphatic words. Sections and paragraphs are rearranged in better order. In contents also, as well as in form, the book is carefully revised. Almost every page discloses some alterations. In footnotes the contributions of recent literature are discussed. Thus Gunkel's *Schöpfung und Chaos*, Hackmann's and Volz' discussions of Isaianic thought, and a score of other important works receive attention. We have not discovered any important changes in Smend's point of view or opinions. It is to be hoped that this new edition will lead many who have not yet read the work to do so, as it is one of the most stimulating and attractive books on the subject of Israel's religion.—GEORGE STEPHEN GOODSPEED.

Erklärung der Propheten Micha und Joel, nebst einer Einleitung in die Prophetie. Von Dr. J. T. Beck, weil. o. Professor der Theologie in Tübingen. Herausgegeben von Jul. Lindenmeyer. (Gütersloh: Druck und Verlag von C. Bertelsmann, 1898; pp. vii + 246; M. 3.60.) Johann Tobias Beck must be classed with the older school of orthodox interpreters, although he professed to have departed from their errors. He published several works in the sphere of the doctrinal and practical, and he left a number of exegetical notes which have been prepared for publication since his death by appreciative friends. The book here noticed has fifty-five pages of introduction to prophecy as a whole, eight of introduction to Micah, 134 of notes on Micah, and forty-four of notes on Joel. In the general introduction our author makes his opinion clear throughout that the prophet was so enfolded in the spirit of God that he considers all events and conditions in

their bearing upon the development of the kingdom of God, and that all the institutions of the older dispensation contain the kernel of the future. To discern the significance for the future one must have the tuition of the Spirit and large exercise in the study of the New Testament, and in this way secure what Beck calls the *pneumatic* interpretation. Into the details of his positions we must not enter. The lengths to which his theory leads him may be seen from his interpretation of Mic. 4: 2 and of Mic. 5: 5, the fulfilments of which he finds in the life of Christ and his church at the cost of giving to Assyria the meaning of "powers opposed to the kingdom of God," and leaving no room for the historic nations or for the grand ideals of Israelitish influence which most interpreters find in these prophecies.—CHARLES RUFUS BROWN.

Das Buch der Sprüche Salomons, mit erläuternden Anmerkungen, von P. Bernhard Schmid (Regensburg: Nationale Verlagsanstalt, 1899; pp. iv + 157; M. 2.80), is a modern representative of the commentaries of a century ago. All scientific, exegetical methods and results are avowedly and strenuously excluded. The author is apparently unfamiliar with the Hebrew language, and follows the church fathers almost entirely in his interpretations. The value of the work, even for the general student, is exceedingly questionable, while the evil of inculcating doctrines long since abandoned is great.—C. F. KENT.

Vergleichende Studien zur Stellung der Frau im Altertum. Bd. I: Die Frau im Talmud. Von Dr. N. Klugmann. (Wien: Moriz Waizner & Sohn, 1898; pp. 87; M. 2.) In this little volume the author has brought together a most interesting mass of material from the Talmud concerning women, chiefly under the heads of "Childhood," "Instruction," "Marriage;" the latter naturally being by far the most fully treated. A somewhat curious chapter also contains a large number of opinions passed by the rabbis upon women. The volume not only contains information of much archæological importance, but throws considerable light upon the gospels. In this connection it is especially interesting to note the difference between the marriage customs of Judea and Galilee.—SHAILER MATHEWS.

La Secte des Esséniens. Essai critique sur son organization, sa doctrine, son origine. Par l'Abbé A. Regeffe. (Lyon: Emmanuel